

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 159196  
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-02 MMO-04 NSCE-00 USIE-00  
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EUR-12  
IO-14 ACDA-10 /098 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PRESS:GEBROWN  
APPROVED BY ARA/PRESS:GEORGE E. BROWN

-----112365 082151Z /46

O 082119Z JUL 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE  
USCINCSO

UNCLAS STATE 159196

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS:PINT, XM

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE - BELIZE

FOLLOWING EXCHANGE OCCURRED AT DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING  
TODAY, JULY 8:

Q: JOHN, DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON BELIZE TODAY?

A: WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW, ROY?

Q: WELL, WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO THE COMMUNIQUE? ARE YOU  
ENCOURAGED?

A: WELL, WE OBVIOUSLY ARE PLEASED THAT THE PARTIES, THAT  
IS, THE BRITISH AND THE GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA, HAVE AGREED  
TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT MR. ROLANDS, WHO, AS YOU  
KNOW, IS HEAD OF THE BRITISH FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 159196

OFFICE, WILL VISIT GUATEMALA. I DON'T BELIEVE HE IS THE  
HEAD. THAT IS WRONG. HE IS, I THINK, A MINISTER OF STATE.  
HE WILL VISIT GUATEMALA. WE THINK THAT ALL OF THIS WILL  
CONTRIBUTE TO AN EASING OF TENSION AND ALLOW THE PARTIES TO  
CONTINUE TO WORK TOWARD A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THEIR  
DIFFERENCES.

Q: YESTERDAY, HODDING CARTER DESCRIBED THE SITUATION AROUND BELIZE AS TENSE. HOW DO YOU ASSESS IT TODAY?

A: WE THINK THE TALKS HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY EASED THE TENSION AND IN THAT RESPECT SOME REPORTS YESTERDAY THAT GUATEMALA WAS SUBSTANTIALLY REINFORCING ITS SIDE OF THE BORDER WERE EXAGGERATED.

Q: WHAT DID GUATEMALA DO?

A: WELL, I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO WHAT THEY DID, BUT OUR INFORMATION IS THAT, AS I SAY, REPORTS THAT THEY WERE SUBSTANTIALLY REINFORCING THEIR SIDE WERE OVERDRAWN.

Q: JOHN, WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE NEW MEETING BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND THE GUATEMALAN FOREIGN MINISTER THIS AFTERNOON?

A: I THINK IT IS THE SAME SUBJECT, FRANCOIS. HE SAW HIM YESTERDAY AND HE IS SEEING HIM AGAIN OR HAS SEEN HIM AGAIN TODAY.

Q: IF EVERYTHING IS ALL RIGHT, WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING?

A: WELL, I THINK IT SHOULD BE PRETTY OBVIOUS. IT IS IN MY UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 159196

ESTIMATION A FOLLOW-UP MEETING TO GO OVER WHAT HAS DEVELOPED. I WOULDN'T READ INTO IT THAT THERE IS ANY FURTHER PROBLEM TO BE RESOLVED, IMMEDIATE PROBLEM TO BE RESOLVED.

Q: HAS THERE BEEN A COMPLAINT BECAUSE OF THE USE BY THE BRITISH OF THE U.S. BASE IN BERMUDA?

A: I DON'T KNOW OF ANY COMPLAINT BY GUATEMALA, NO.

Q: JOHN, ----

A: MARVIN

Q: YOU SAY THAT REPORTS THAT THEY WERE SUBSTANTIALLY REINFORCED WERE OVERDRAWN. WERE THE REINFORCEMENTS, TO YOUR KNOWLEDGE, BY GUATEMALA OF ITS FORCES ON THE BELIZE BORDER?

A: I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOUR QUESTION.

Q: WELL, YOU SAY THAT IT IS NOT CORRECT TO SAY THAT THERE WERE SUBSTANTIAL REINFORCEMENTS, BUT WERE THERE REINFORCEMENTS BY GUATEMALA? DID GUATEMALA UNDERTAKE ANY ACTION?

THERE HAS BEEN A NEWS BLACKOUT SUPPOSEDLY ON MILITARY PREPARATIONS BY GUATEMALA AND ANY LIGHT YOU CAN SHED ON THEIR ACTIVITIES IS VALUABLE.

A: I CAN'T, ROY. JUST THAT OUR INFORMATION, WHICH IS I THINK, VERY GOOD, IS THAT IT CONFLICTS WITH REPORTS OF SUBSTANTIAL REINFORCEMENTS BY GUATEMALA. ARE THERE ANY MORE QUESTIONS ON THIS SUBJECT?

NO RESPONSE.

A: ANOTHER SUBJECT, THEN. (END QUOTE). VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INSTRUCTIONS, DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION, THE PRESS, PRESS CONFERENCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 08-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE159196  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** GEBROWN  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770243-0862  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770776/aaaacobp.tel  
**Line Count:** 126  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 0da08a6e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1917261  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESS GUIDANCE - BELIZE FOLLOWING EXCHANGE OCCURRED AT DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING TODAY, JULY 8  
**TAGS:** PINT, SOPN, XM, US  
**To:** ALL POSTS USCINCSO  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/0da08a6e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009